

In the Claims

1-10. (cancelled)

11. (new) A filter device, comprising:

a filter housing having an unfiltered fluid inlet, a filtered fluid outlet and a backwash fluid outlet;

filter elements in said housing receiving fluid flow in one direction for filtration and in an opposite direction for backwashing effective filter surfaces thereof;

a pivoting device mounting said filter elements in said filter housing for sequential rotational movement about a pivot axis between filtration positions in which unfiltered fluid flows from inside to outside through said filter elements and a backwashing position in which filtered fluid flows from outside to inside through said filter elements, said pivot device having a rotatably mounted receiving part mounting said filter elements parallel to said pivot axis along a path coaxial to said pivot axis and having first and second end parts, said filter elements extending between said end parts, said first end part facing toward said fluid inlet and rotatably guided along an inside of said filter housing by a seal; and

a drive being coupled to said receiving part to rotate said receiving part, including a rod-shaped drive part releasably connecting said first and second end parts and including a pneumatic motor producing alternating to and fro movements on an output part convertible into a constant drive movement in a drive direction of said drive part by a free wheel device.

12. (new) A filter device according to claim 11 wherein

said free wheel device comprises a free wheel sleeve delivering drive power of said drive to said drive part in one direction up to a set torque and not applying drive torque to said drive part in an opposite direction.

13. (new) A filter device according to claim 11 wherein

said filter elements are conical and are arranged in pairs opposite one another in each pair relative to said pivot axis, each of said filter elements having an inlet opening facing toward said drive.

14. (new) A filter device according to claim 11 wherein

said filtered fluid outlet is disposed in a first housing part of said filter housing facing toward said drive; and

said filter housing including a second housing part being removable from said first housing part, said second housing part having a cavity above said filter elements toward a free end thereof with an axial extension corresponding approximately to an overall length of each said filter element.

15. (new) A filter device according to claim 11 wherein

said fluid inlet and said backwash fluid outlet are located in a part of said filter housing extending between said filtered fluid outlet and said drive.

16. (new) A filter device according to claim 15 wherein

each said filter element comprises a bar screen tube filter element.

17. (new) A filter device according to claim 11 wherein

a lower part of said filter housing comprises an arcuate-shaped recess over which several of said filter elements can be located simultaneously in filtration positions thereof with lower free open cross sections in fluid communication therewith, said arcuate-shaped recess being in fluid communication with said fluid inlet; and

said lower part of said filter housing also comprises a backwash recess over which said filter elements are sequentially located in said backwashing position with said free open cross sections in fluid communication therewith, said backwash recess being in fluid communication with said backwash fluid outlet.

18. (new) A filter device according to claim 17 wherein

exterior surfaces of said filter elements are in fluid communication with one another allowing filtered fluid from said filter elements in said filtration positions to flow to and through said filter element in said backwashing position as backwashing fluid.

19. (new) A filter device, comprising:

a filter housing having an unfiltered fluid inlet, a filtered fluid outlet and a backwash fluid outlet;

filter elements in said housing receiving fluid flow in one direction for filtration and in an opposite direction for backwashing effective filter surfaces thereof;

a pivoting device mounting said filter elements in said filter housing for sequential rotational movement about a pivot axis between filtration positions in which unfiltered fluid flows from inside to outside through said filter elements and a backwashing position in which filtered fluid flows from outside to inside through said filter elements, said pivot device having a rotatably mounted receiving part mounting said filter elements parallel to said pivot axis along a path coaxial to said pivot axis and having first and second end parts, said filter elements extending between said end parts, said first end part facing toward said fluid inlet and rotatably guided along an inside of said filter housing by a seal;

a drive being coupled to said receiving part to rotate said receiving part; and

a lower part of said filter housing having an arcuate-shaped recess over which several of said filter elements can be located simultaneously in filtration positions thereof with lower free open cross sections in fluid communication therewith and having a backwash recess over which said filter elements are sequentially located in said backwashing position with said free open cross sections in fluid communication therewith, said arcuate-shaped recess being in fluid communication with said fluid inlet, said backwash recess being in fluid communication with said backwash fluid outlet.

20. (new) A filter device according to claim 19 wherein

said free wheel device comprises a free wheel sleeve delivering drive power of said drive to said drive part in one direction up to a set torque and not applying drive torque to said drive part in an opposite direction.

21. (new) A filter device according to claim 19 wherein

said filter elements are conical and are arranged in pairs opposite one another in each pair relative to said pivot axis, each of said filter elements having an inlet opening facing toward said drive.

22. (new) A filter device according to claim 19 wherein

said filtered fluid outlet is disposed in a first housing part of said filter housing facing toward said drive; and

said filter housing including a second housing part being removable from said first housing part, said second housing part having a cavity above said filter elements toward a free end thereof with an axial extension corresponding approximately to an overall length of each said filter element.

23. (new) A filter device according to claim 19 wherein

said fluid inlet and said backwash fluid outlet are located in a part of said filter housing extending between said filtered outlet and said drive.

24. (new) A filter device according to claim 22 wherein

each said filter element comprises a bar screen tube filter element.

25. (new) A filter device according to claim 19 wherein

exterior surfaces of said filter elements are in fluid communication with one another allowing filtered fluid from said filter elements in said filtration positions to flow to and through said filter element in said backwashing position as backwashing fluid.